

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	[REDACTED]	25X1
SUBJECT	1. Uniforms for Soviet Women Soldiers 2. Soviet Clothing Depot at Frankfurt/Oder	DATE DISTR.	19 March 1954	
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Clothing issued to female members of the Soviet Army is made of exactly the same material as that issued to the soldiers. They also wear similar type shoulderboards and braid. During 1952, vast quantities of uniform skirts and uniform blouses were manufactured in Bernau, Schwanebecker Chaussee, for issue to female Russians stationed in Germany. When this clothing depot was disbanded, the remaining female uniforms were stored at VEB Biesenthal.
2. The VEBs Fortschritt I and Fortschritt II in East Berlin no longer produce clothing for the Soviets. The contracts issued to other firms situated in East Berlin have also been cancelled. This measure does not however affect factories and workshops outside the boundaries of Berlin in the Soviet Zone.
3. Enlisted men of the Soviet Army receive their first leave after two years service. Officers receive home leave every ten months. The length of leave given to officers depends upon their seniority and travelling time to their homes; [REDACTED] 25X1
4. Leave contingents are accompanied by an armed guard to the frontier station. This procedure applies equally to officers, NCO's and EM. This armed guard hands over the leave contingent to the military train guard at the frontier station. It has been observed that the military guard only leaves the train in Frankfurt/Oder when the train is already in motion. 25X1
5. Formerly the date the train crossed the German frontier was counted as the first day of leave plus travelling time, now this system has been changed and a date is entered in the soldiers pass which is estimated to be the date of crossing the frontier but should the dates differ, the date in the pass is the valid one. This measure has been adopted to keep a closer check on civilian employees of the Soviet army who have hitherto been somewhat lax about leave dates.

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25 YEAR REVIEW


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- 2 -

6. Female civilian workers employed  in Frankfurt/Oder receive six weeks' holiday each year. Until the middle of 1953, this leave had to be applied for six months in advance, but since then only four or five days prior to application are necessary for them to be issued with their leave pass.
7. With effect from 1 January 1954, the pay of the Soviet Army in East Germany has been reduced. A senior lieutenant, married and with one child, now receives 500 D.M. per month after rent and ration payments have been deducted. One such lieutenant has his wife and small child with him in his barracks. In order to provide accommodation for the family a wooden wall was constructed down the center of his room dividing it into living room and bedroom. For this he now has to pay 28 marks a month. The wife and child receive their food at the officers' mess.

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